Bhubaneshwar)

19. Secreatry, Sumita Health & Family Welfare Society, Lucknow. (Medical College at Lucknow)

20. Director, Maharishi Shiksha Sansthan, Noida, UP. (Medical College at Shimla)

21. Secretary, Venkatesha Education Society Bangalore. (Medical College at Bangalore)

Reduction of Bed-student ratio By IMC

204. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Medical Council is considering reducing the bed-student ratio from seven to five bads per student, if so, whether any proposal has been received by Government; and

(b) what are the major changes the Indian Medical Council is considering to bring in the Medical education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The Medical Council of India has submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for revision of requirement of staff and beds for a medical college for admission of 100 students annually. The Council has also proposed minimum standard requirement of beds and staff for 50 and 150 admissions annually in a medical college.

(b) The MCI regulation on Graduate Medical Education containing M.B.B.S. curriculum has been notified in the Part III, Section 4 of the Gazette of India on 17th May, 1997. the M.C.I. has circulated it amongst Universities for implementing the revised curriculum from the academic session 1997-98. The four and a half years of M.B.B.S. course has been rescheduled as under:—

Three phases	Existing duration of phase of course	Revised duration of phase of course
Phase I	1½ years	1 year (2 semisters)
Phase II	1½ years	1½ years (3 semisters)
Phase III	1½ years	2 years (7 semisters)

Hearing deficiency by noise pollution

205. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether growing noise pollution in both the urban and rural areas is an important cause of increasing hearing deficiency in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the precautionary/preventive measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Community based data regarding noise-induced hearing deficiency in India is not available. However, certain studies conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research in industries have reported noise-induced hearing definciency.

(c) In addition to the overall pollution control strategies, noise attenuators such as ear plugs and ear muffs have been found effective as protective devices.

Setting up of a Pace Maker Bank

206. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set-up a Pace Maker Bank in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?